

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

VOL. 42, NO. 8
OCTOBER 1987

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Up-and-Coming

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 6:30 P.M.—Reception honoring journalists who died while covering wars. At 7:30, a memorial plaque will be presented to the OPC. Sheraton Centre, 53rd St. & 7th Ave. (R.S.V.P. to Mary Novick, number below.)

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 5:30 P.M.—OPC member **Ruth Gruber** will talk about her new book, *Rescue: The Exodus of the Ethiopian Jews*. Bogert Room.

Thursday, Nov. 12, 5:30 P.M.—*New York Times* columnist **Flora Lewis** will discuss her new book, *Europe*. Squadron A Room.

Members free, guests \$5. Cash bar, all functions. Reservations required; call Mary Novick 212-983-4655.

New Lodgings For OPCers

Rooms are no longer available at the Chemists Club on East 41 Street in Manhattan.

Instead, OPC members can secure reasonably priced overnight accommodations at the Women's Republican Club, 3 West 51st Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. OPCers must present their gold OPC credit card as proof of membership.

For further information, call the Women's Republican Club at 212-582-5454.

Dues Reminder

"All of the OPC's annual dues notices have been mailed out," reports Mary Novick, the Club manager. If you have not yet received yours, please notify Novick or her assistant, Lili Lee at (212) 983-4655.

Novick and Lee also are awaiting receipt of the directory information forms, which accompanied this year's dues notices. These forms will make it possible for the Club to update its membership directory, which will be distributed free to all OPCers and available at a charge to others in the industry.

Please send your dues and your completed directory information form to the Club ASAP.

DOC CHEATHAM HEADS OPC JAZZ BASH IN SALUTE TO BUCK CLAYTON

A crowd of 100 packed the opening night of the 1987-88 season of jazz at the OPC on Friday, September 18, at a special program in tribute to Buck Clayton and his recently published book, *Buck Clayton's Jazz World* (Oxford University Press). The twilight concert was headed by Doc Cheatham on trumpet, Al Hall on bass, Jackie Williams on drums and Chuck Folds at the piano.

"I am proud that one of the most distinguished trumpeters of all time, Doc Cheatham, and many close, dear friends of mine in jazz recognize my book on this very special occasion," said Clayton, who is known internationally as an outstanding trumpeter, composer, arranger and conductor. "We have all shared the tides, trials and triumphs in our endeavors to make jazz history."

The twilight concert kicked off with a salute to Earl "Fatha" Hines and Maxine Sullivan—"two of the OPC Jazz Committee's honorary founding members who guided the Overseas Jazz Club from its inception 18 years ago and performed at the Club many, many memorable times," said **Wilma Dobie**, chairperson of the OPC Jazz Committee. The band opened with "Rosetta," which was written by Hines, and "I Thought About You," Sullivan's theme song.

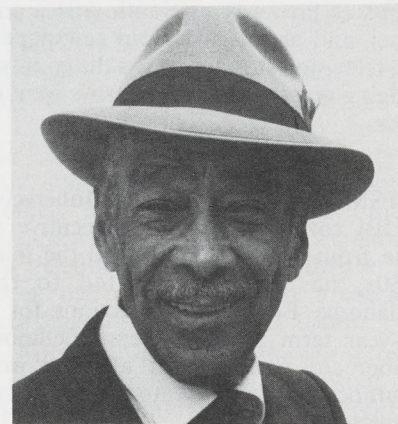
At the close of the concert, **Herb Kupferberg**, President of the OPC, officially inducted Doc Cheatham and Buck Clayton into the Honorary Jazz Committee of the Overseas Press Club by presenting each artist with a plaque.

OPC Issues Appeal For Missing Kenyan

The OPC has issued an appeal to the President of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of Kenyan journalist Paul Amini.

Amini is a correspondent for Reuters, West German radio and, occasionally, the BBC and the Voice of America. On the morning of his arrest, he was covering the case of a fellow Kenyan who had disappeared and who later was said by Amnesty International to have been killed by police.

Amini is being held under public security regulations which permit the minister of interior security to detain people without charge, without trial and without explanation.



Buck Clayton



OPC Honorary Jazz Committee (l to r): Jackie Williams, Chuck Folds, Al Hall and Doc Cheatham.

In a letter sent to Daniel Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of the OPC, Norman A. Schorr, Chairman of the Club's Freedom of the Press Committee, wrote: "We urge you to release this journalist and to insure his humane treatment and free access to his family and legal counsel."

Who's doing what, when, where and, if there's space, why

by BOB DUNPHY*

**Bob Dunphy is graciously filling in for fellow Associate Editor Ralph Gardner who is vacationing abroad through the end of this month.*

TRUE GRIT: Veteran New York publicist and former OPCer Jack Fones is up to his armpits in sand down in Bradenton, Fla., these days. Bored with retirement on Florida's Gulf Coast, Fones wandered into the Manatee County Visitors Bureau recently and suggested that since the area boasted such fine beaches, it should sponsor what he called The Great International White Sand Beach Challenge. The result: an avalanche of entries from points as far away as South Africa and Israel, and phone calls from newspapers and television stations across the country. Judging was slated for 9/14 as we went to press.

* * *

NO SMALL HONOR: Ernie Hoberecht, a UPI correspondent and executive in Asia from World War II until the mid-1960s, has been nominated to the Oklahoma Board of Corrections for a six-year term by Gov. Henry Bellmon. Hoberecht operates an abstract and insurance business in Watonga, Okla., his hometown.

* * *

SHE MOVED AND WANTS MAIL! Irene Taylor wants all of her friends at the Club to know that, after 20 years, she has a new address: 2128 South Garth Avenue, Columbia, Mo. 65201-3420. She would especially like to hear from Irene Kuhn and Wambly Bald, and other friends who worked in Paris in the '20s and '30s.

* * *

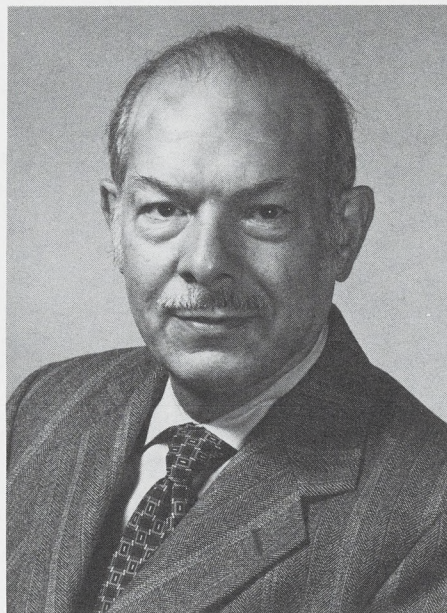
WOMEN'S PR GROUPS: When London's Association of Women in PR, the British sister group of Women Executives in PR in the United States, celebrated its silver anniversary in England recently, the guest of honor was, appropriately enough, OPCer Denny Griswold, founder of the U.S. group and a founder of the British organization. Denny, who is also the founder and editor of *PR News*, hailed the advances made by women PR executives through their professional exchanges and urged the establishment of similar groups around the world. The anniversary party was held in Her Majesty's Garden in London, with some 100 dignitaries in attendance.

HOTEL DISCOUNT: Doris and Thurston Macauley report from Maidenhead, England, that a second French hotel, the Nice Meridien, is offering a 50 percent discount to OPC members and their families. OPCers should contact Jacques Quelle, the manager, at the hotel on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice, France.

First with the OPC discount were Le Warwick Champs-Elysees and the Westminster Rue de la Paix in Paris, through the courtesy of Ernst Muhle, manager of both.

* * *

THE DEAN SPEAKS: Bernard S. Redmont, Dean Emeritus and a Professor of Journalism at Boston University's College of Communication, was a keynote speaker at the closing session of a three-day conference on "Media, Power and Democracy," in Paris. The symposium was sponsored by the International Institute of Geopolitics and the Wilson Center, and included such participants as *Washington Post* CEO Katherine Graham, *The New York Times*' "Scotty" Reston and other top journalists, academics and political figures of many nations. Redmont also delivered lectures at the University of Strasbourg (France) Journalism school.



Bernard S. Redmont

* * *

COVER GIRL: OPC member Ursula Kreis has just been awarded a gold medal by the Boston Art Directors Club for a photograph of hers that adorns the cover of the 1987 General Electric Plastics Calendar. The kicker is that Ursula says she is not a photographer but a photographers' representative who sometimes gets lucky. The prize photo was taken from an airplane en route to a skiing vacation in Utah—and the lucky usage fee has paid for the entire trip!

EXPO EXPERT: OPCer Lou Garcia has left *Economic World*, where he was executive editor and associate publisher, to return to the helm of his own public relations firm. He is currently engaged in trying to increase media coverage here of World Expo 88, which will take place in Brisbane, Australia, from April to October next year. Lou shortly will leave for the land Down Under to start beating the drums for the United States Pavilion at the fair, whose theme is "Sports and Its Science."

* * *

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION: Col. Barney Oldfield (USAF, retired) was the recent recipient of a letter from President Ronald Reagan, congratulating him and his wife, Vada, for helping put so many students through the University of Nebraska on scholarships that they established. The Oldfields, class of 1933, also were cited for distinguished service by the University of Nebraska Foundation.

Memorial Tribute To Harry Baehr

Longtime OPC member Harry W. Baehr died September 2 at 79 at his home in Brooklyn. He had been with the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1937 until its demise in 1966, and served for many years as its chief editorial writer. In later years, he wrote the editorials for the *International Herald Tribune*, operating out of an office in *The New York Times* building.

Harry Baehr in many ways epitomized the *Herald Tribune* itself. Of scholarly background (he held a Ph.D. from Columbia, but nobody ever called him Doctor), he chose to go into the newspaper business, where his understanding of international and political affairs, his vast historical knowledge, his immense versatility and his graceful writing style won him the respect of his colleagues and the editorship of one of the best editorial pages in the country.

Warm and gentlemanly, with a quick sense of humor, he was always ready to help a younger colleague, and he never lost his own fascination with the news or his ability to analyze and interpret it. He married twice and suffered the misfortune of seeing both his wives die after prolonged illnesses. Yet he survived their passing, like that of his beloved newspaper, to remain a cheerful observer and wise counselor to all who knew him.

—Herbert Kupferberg

A memorial tribute and remembrance for Harry Baehr will be held at 3 p.m., Monday, Oct. 26, at the Century Association, 7 West 43rd St., New York, N.Y. OPC members and Harry's friends and associates are invited.

Boston University Photo Service

In recognition of The International Herald Tribune's centennial—the paper's 100th birthday is October 4—OPC'er

Kenneth Koyen shares the following reminiscences of the last days at The Paris Herald with us.

With The Paris Herald During the 'Phony War'

by KENNETH KOYEN

We on the *Paris Herald* in 1938 through 1940 were there for the highest drama in the history of the paper. I came in May 1938 to see Europe. In Paris, I looked up Arnold Severeid, who I knew from campus newspaper days at the University of Minnesota. (Arnold was to become better known as Eric.) He told me there was an opening at *The Paris Herald*, where he was the day city editor. A chat with Eric Hawkins, the English managing editor, and I had the job.

One of my duties was to edit, with restraint, the peculiar prose of Sparrow (William H.) Robertson for his "Sporting Gos-sip" column. Tiny Sparrow, jaunty at 83, had long been a fixture. His column contained little in-formation about sports. Rather, it was a recital of hopping the same bars and greeting the same old pals night after night.

Sparrow did provide a light note in that dark period of the Civil War in Spain, the Anschluss in Austria and the Pact in Munich. When World War II arrived in September 1939, it brought a sense of relief with the end of uncertainty.

Life and work in Paris remained remarkably the same during the "phony war." *The Paris Herald* was reduced to four pages, but the tempo and the staff changed but little. Severeid, after displaying X-rays which indicated that his wife, Lois, would deliver twins, left the paper to try his hand at broadcasting.

Vincent (Booj) Bugeja, an amiable bear of a man who wrote the paper's optimistic editorials about peace, departed Paris at the declaration of war. Booj, a defrocked Jesuit from Malta, headed for parts south that he considered less vulnerable than the capital. (Eight months later, convinced that all was quiet, Booj returned, just before the German attack. Once more, he departed.) I have always

considered Booj a sterling example of the prescience of editorial writers.

Most of the staff remained. The core of old-timers, a number of Americans with French families, stayed on. The British, including Hawkins and elderly Mr. Lewis Glynn, the financial editor, stood fast. So did the English proof-readers. Enough French printers were left to get out the paper. The city editor, a sardonic B.J. Kospoth, derided the Allied military preparations and criticized the

quality of the French and British troops. As it turned out, he was closer to the mark than any war correspondent—or prime minister or premier, for that matter.

New faces mingled with the old as cor-respondents,

writers and assorted celebrities came and went. An ebb and flow of staffers and cor-respondents between the parent paper in New York and its Paris offspring had been a part of the operation since it began in 1887. Journalists such as Al Laney, Ralph Barnes, Bert Andrews and **Frank Kelley** were a few of the many who served both papers. Beach Conger showed up from Germany, Elliot Paul looked in from Spain. (OPC President **Herb Kupferberg** came to the *Paris Herald* from the New York paper later, just after the war.)

Mrs. Noël Monks, who worked for Lord Beaverbrook, arrived on the Paris scene from London. (Better known as **Mary Welsh**, she would become still better known as Mrs. Ernest Heming-way.) Another woman, who made a brief but striking appearance, was the attractive daughter of Finland's Marshal Mannerheim. She pleaded for aid for her country, attacked by Russia in a now almost forgotten episode of the war.

The *drôle de guerre* came to an abrupt end on May 10, 1940, with the German attack on Belgium and Holland. Air-raid alarms now sounded with good reason.

News of the fighting was sketchy in the first few days—something that we should have recognized as ominous. But calm reigned in the city room. Another staffer, Hal Evarts Jr., a Californian, and I decided to take a trip to the country on our days off. We headed for Normandy and no sooner arrived in the village of Pacy-sur-Eure than we were collared by the police, who were in a high state of alarm over reports of parachuting spies and saboteurs. We finally persuaded the police that we were harmless, despite our suspiciously Nordic appearances. After an excellent *truite au bleu* luncheon, we hastened back to Paris to find out what was going on.

Everyone now realized that things were going badly, indeed. Belgium, the bastion of World War I, capitulated. At lunch that day the waitresses served us with tears streaming down their faces. Outside of the official communiqués, the news that we received and printed diminished rapidly. Reports of the fighting became even more confused. George Polk, another staffer, monitored our shortwave radio to pick up scraps of news that we could turn into stories.

I took damp galley and page proofs to the censors of the French Ministry of Information at the Hotel Continental. Politely but firmly, the French officers blue-pencilled our stories. I telephoned the deletions to Hawkins. Down to one sheet, the paper looked like a checker-board; entire columns were blank.

Ailing Laurence Hills, the editor, made a rare appearance. He told the staff that the paper would attempt to continue publication no matter what happened. This was in the tradition of James Gordon Bennett, the younger, the founder, who kept the paper going in Paris throughout the first World War. Courtly Mr. Glynn demurred. He recalled that Bennett had said that he would not publish under German control. We staffers considered it impractical, if not unrealistic, to contemplate publication under the Germans. The matter was settled on June 8 when Hawkins announced to the staff that Ogden Mills Reid, editor of the *New York Herald Tribune*, had cabled that *The Paris Herald* would not publish under the Germans. As the German army was poised to take Paris, the end had arrived. The staff had dwindled anyhow, and little more than the masthead appeared on the reverse of the single sheet.

About a half-dozen of us put out the last staff-produced edition of the paper. We were Hawkins, Bob Sage, who typed with one hand, Ed Haffel, Max Imhoff, Evarts and myself. The final date was June 12, 1940. Correspondents John Elliott and Walter Kerr (not the latter-day theater critic) remained on the job in Paris. Sparrow stayed on, too, as did

continued on next Page



The Paris Herald Newsroom, rue de Berri.

courtesy of The International Herald Tribune

The Paris Herald

from Page 3

Hills. (Both died the next year in France.)

We collected our last pay, the franc-notes, as always, pinned neatly together. As we left the darkened city room and walked along the rue de Berri, we heard the distant sound of guns to the north. The boulevards were silent. There was no traffic. Municipal buses and trucks were parked across the avenues as obstacles to the enemy.

Then Evarts and I set out for Bordeaux. We joined that incredible exodus from Paris. But that's another story.



Kenneth Koyen

To wind up the story, **Kenneth Koyen** wrote and told us that he returned to the United States from Lisbon on the liner Manhattan (which did not survive the war) and joined the New York Herald Tribune, where he was a reporter from 1940 to 1948, with time out for military service. He continued: "...I first returned to Paris in 1944 on leave from Patton's Third Army. I was surprised to find the Paris Herald city room occupied by the Army newspaper, The Stars and Stripes, and several of the staffers, in uniform, my colleagues from the New York paper. Bob Moora was one of them. Since the Herald Tribune days, I've been in public relations in Washington and New York, and I continue to do free-lance writing and editing."

On behalf of all of your fellow OPC members, thanks for sharing this with us, Ken.

—The Editors

Downholders Plan "Biggest Bash Ever"

The UPI Downholders have a 20-member committee planning "their biggest meeting ever," according to OPC Vice President **H.L. Stevenson** and OPC Board Member **Fred Ferguson**, who are helping to organize the event. This will be the first such meeting of the club in more than three years.

For the uninitiated, Downholders are members of the Downhold Club, which gets its name from the cable-ese word that commanded news bureaus to "hold down on expenses," a common happenstance at UP and, later, UPI. The club is made up of former UPI staffers.

The 1987 meeting of the Downhold Club will take place on November 13 at the Park Terrace, 24 Fifth Avenue (the former Fifth Avenue Hotel) in New York, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. An open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres comprise the evening's fare—all for \$28. (Note from the low price that the members are still downholding.)

Downholders who have not received an invitation and reservation form should contact Barbara Wright at 212-395-2295 or write the Downhold Club, P.O. Box 8132-FDR Station, New York, N.Y. 10150-1916.

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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OFFICE SPACE

Two furnished offices (available together or separately). Phone messages taken and Xerox facilities. 40th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues in landmark building. \$500/month each. Call 212-221-0410.

NEW MEMBERS

ACTIVE RESIDENT

Donald Last
Carl Mydans
Sadahiko Sugaya
Tsugio Tajiri

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT

Leslie Aldridge Westoff

ACTIVE OVERSEAS

Patricia Ann Koza
David Zucchini

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

Martin B. Berke

REINSTATEMENT

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

Hubert Pryor

Self-employed writer, editor, consultant

NEW APPLICATIONS

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT

Robert Waligunda—President, Sky Promotions, Inc.

Sponsors: *Joseph Boychuck, Julie Reisch*

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

Albert Hemsing—Self-employed

Sponsors: *Robert Schiffer, Patricia Scharlin*